

From: Blunck, Christopher [Blunck.Chris@epa.gov]
Sent: 10/23/2018 7:34:17 PM
To: Morris, Jeff [Morris.Jeff@epa.gov]
CC: Nazef, Laura [Nazef.Laura@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: China
Attachments: China Annex 3 (Chemicals) JCEC 2018 Workplan Draft_MEE (clear) (004).docx

Jeff-- Do you need any materials developed for the discussion w/ China?

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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#	Objectives	Past Accomplishments (2016-2017)	Proposed Next Steps (2018-2019)	Progress Updates/Outcomes (2018-2019)
1	Chemicals Management			
1.1	Exchange perspectives on computational toxicology in chemicals-related decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about use of computational toxicology in the U.S. and China in chemicals-related decisions 	
1.2	Share ideas for managing chemicals in products and articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss approaches for managing chemicals in products and articles 	
1.3	Share information about chemicals management and chemical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss guidance on chemical risk assessment and relevant technical methods in the U.S. and China 	
1.4	Capacity building of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New project GLP management topic was discussed at the end of 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss GLP management including compliance monitoring processes and related guidelines such as inspection manuals, etc. 	

2	Mercury Management			
2.1	Mutual exchange of progress on integrated mercury management in the context of implementation of the Minamata Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minamata Convention Initial Assessment Study Tour with focus on emissions from coal fired power plants, industrial boilers, and cement plants and PRTR (Nov. 2016) • Meeting on Mercury Waste Disposal and Minamata Implementation (Sept. 2016) • Suggestions on Implementation for Major Mercury-added Products and Key Atmospheric Mercury Emission Sectors report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange on mercury management progress. This could include updates on guidance of monitoring technologies, discharge permission system on mercury control • Discussion and update on implementation progress and challenges, particularly in the areas of communication and outreach, building institutional capacity, and encouraging progress in priority sectors 	
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Chris Blunck

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Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
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Phone: 202-564-8078
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From: Morris, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Kovner, Karissa <Kovner.Karissa@epa.gov>; Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Baptist, Erik <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>; Hanley, Mary <Hanley.Mary@epa.gov>; Hartman, Mark <Hartman.Mark@epa.gov>; Henry, Tala <Henry.Tala@epa.gov>; Nazef, Laura <Nazef.Laura@epa.gov>; Blunck, Christopher <Blunck.Chris@epa.gov>; Clark, Sharon <Clark.Sharon@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: China

Please coordinate with Sharon on my availability. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2018, at 14:56, Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Many thanks. I will email Karluss and loop in Jeff and you and Laura and Sharon to sort out all the details.

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
Deputy Assistant Administrator, OCSPP
P: 202-564-1273
beck.nancy@epa.gov

From: Kovner, Karissa
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Morris, Jeff <Morris.Jeff@epa.gov>; Baptist, Erik <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>; Hanley, Mary <Hanley.Mary@epa.gov>; Hartman, Mark <Hartman.Mark@epa.gov>; Henry, Tala <Henry.Tala@epa.gov>; Nazef, Laura <Nazef.Laura@epa.gov>; Blunck, Christopher <Blunck.Chris@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: China

Nancy,

Based on Jeff's confirmation in response to your email on willingness and availability, I reached out to OITA. Brenda (OITA's Senior Advisor covering China) sent the email below to China on Friday, which absent objection from China, accomplishes our leveraging goals between educating on our risk assessment approach of new TSCA and the chemical deliverables of the EPA-MEE MOU.

I think you need to close the loop with Karluss today and indicate Jeff's participation. My understanding is that Karluss is serving as the point of contact/assisting with scheduling on the govt-to-govt meetings that China will now be having with both Jeff and Environment Canada. (If Jeff wants, I can help facilitate the actual timing on the 30th with Karluss and Sharon. Karluss is not planning to attend, although I'm sure he'd be happy to if we want that.) In order to get the Chinese into EPA, Laura Nazef is going to handle the international visitor process for them.

Thanks,

Karissa

On Oct 22, 2018, at 11:08 AM, Doroski, Brenda <Doroski.Brenda@epa.gov> wrote:

Karissa,

Thanks for providing the draft text; it was very helpful. I'll keep you posted on any responses we receive. Let us know if there is anything we can do to support the meeting. Team and/or I will plan to attend.

Best,

Brenda

Brenda Doroski

Senior Advisor, Asia-Pacific and Europe Program

Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: 202-343-9764

From: Kovner, Karissa

Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 8:06 PM

To: Doroski, Brenda <Doroski.Brenda@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Finalizing Annex 3 Chemicals Workplan and Upcoming Activity

Thanks!

On Oct 19, 2018, at 4:01 PM, Doroski, Brenda
<Doroski.Brenda@epa.gov> wrote:

Dear Mr. Qin,

I wanted to follow up on your request for a small change to the Chemicals/Annex 3 work plan of our MOU and to indicate how pleased EPA will be to meet with your MEE colleagues from the Solid Waste and Chemicals Management Center on October 30 for discussion on one of our key deliverables for that Annex.

At the end of August, you requested a small revision to the 1.3 language on risk assessment. We apologize for the delayed response; we didn't realize until Mark was with you in Beijing last month that we had not replied. EPA is fine with that change and element 1.3 in the chemicals work plan will now read as you requested: "Discuss guidance on chemical risk assessment and relevant technical methods in the United States and China."

I am very pleased that we will be able to demonstrate some strong and early action to deliver on that same element of the Annex 3 work plan on October 30 when we welcome a MEE delegation to Washington. We are working together here at EPA with our colleagues in our Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention to ensure that the meeting with Qiong DING, Xiaodong JIAN, Yang YU, and Jing ZHAO is useful, informative, and advances our shared objective and commitment under element 1.3 on chemical risk assessment and relevant technical methods. I hope you will be able to meet with the delegation in advance of their visit to consider MEE's specific questions and objectives for the visit. We are preparing to present EPA's approach for assessment of chemical risk, with a focus primarily on existing chemicals, but with a brief overview of how new chemicals are addressed as well. We will also highlight TSCA's approach to prioritization as a practical way to determine which compounds should be assessed first. If you and your colleagues have other issues you would like to discuss during the 2-hour meeting, please let us know as soon as possible. We will provide hard copies of materials during the meeting and send you electronic copies after the meeting.

We look forward to being able to indicate to our respective leaders that we have already started working together on the Annex 3 workplan.

Thank you, and please tell your colleagues we look forward to seeing them in ten days' time.

Best regards,

Brenda

Brenda Doroski

Senior Advisor, Asia-Pacific and Europe Program

Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs

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On Oct 17, 2018, at 9:24 AM, Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks Karissa,

I think Jeff is amenable to have the meeting, but lets please first ensure the timing works with his schedule.

Jeff- can you take a look at your calendar? Date is October 30th.

Thanks,

Nancy

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
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From: Kovner, Karissa

Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 9:16 AM

To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>

Cc: Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Morris, Jeff <Morris.Jeff@epa.gov>; Baptist, Erik <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>; Hanley, Mary <Hanley.Mary@epa.gov>; Hartman, Mark <Hartman.Mark@epa.gov>; Henry, Tala <Henry.Tala@epa.gov>; Nazef, Laura <Nazef.Laura@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: China

Nancy,

So I've talked to Laura and there is no question that content-wise, what Karluss laid out for you to do fits perfectly within the scope of one of the three work items under the Chemicals Annex of the EPA-MEEP MOU. In fact, it's even better than what's in the Annex because it would be face-to-face and not a webinar or conference call. Here is the language from the work plan: "Share information about chemicals management and chemical assessment; Discuss guidance on chemical risk assessment and relevant technical methods in the United States and China".

Initially OITA suggested the ACC agenda did not fit within the scope of the MOU (which was weird because it's a perfect match), so their answer was that they'd place priority on MOU activities, but noted the value of taking advantage of meeting with delegations while they are in town for other purposes and suggested the ACC presentation, should we participate, could serve as the future content for one of the webinars under the MOU.

I picked up the phone yesterday to clarify that the ACC content would be a great match with the MOU scope given its technical focus on evaluating risk and on D4 (a big issue internationally) so OITA now understands that, but they are raising concerns that the four people coming may not be the same people that OITA works with to coordinate the MOU work — even though the four people coming do work for MEEP and our MOU is with MEEP as a whole, not the coordinating office.

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OITA is willing to check with China to see if China thinks the ACC delegation is an appropriate one to support the scope of the MOU. *But before they reach out, the question to you and Jeff is whether we are willing to accept the ACC meeting request. If we aren't, then best to not ask the question of China now and be ready to do it later.*

For the record, if you are willing to say yes to ACC if it also "counts" under the MOU, then I would want to push OITA to frame this to China as something we see as an affirmative example of delivering on the substance of the MOU, and not an open-ended "people" or form question to China that would allow form to drive substance and not vice-versa.

Sorry for the long email. Let me know your thinking on the italics and I can follow up quickly with OITA.

Thanks,
Karissa

On Oct 15, 2018, at 1:18 PM, Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Ah- very good intel. Good thing I knew to check with you!
When I saw the ask for 2 hours (in response my suggestion for 30 minutes), my immediate inclination was to decline. Perhaps you can talk us back from the brink.
Good to also know you are speaking with Karluss. If he checks in again, please let him know we are running traps.
Thanks Karissa.

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
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From: Kovner, Karissa
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 1:13 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Morris, Jeff <Morris.Jeff@epa.gov>; Baptist, Erik <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>; Hanley, Mary <Hanley.Mary@epa.gov>; Hartman, Mark <Hartman.Mark@epa.gov>; Henry, Tala <Henry.Tala@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: china

Yes, will do.

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As an aside, Karluss has already asked me for help in getting visas for this group and I hooked him up with the right procedure.

Thanks, will let you know.
Karissa

From: Beck, Nancy
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Kovner, Karissa <Kovner.Karissa@epa.gov>
Cc: Bertrand, Charlotte <Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov>; Morris, Jeff <Morris.Jeff@epa.gov>; Baptist, Erik <Baptist.Erik@epa.gov>; Hanley, Mary <Hanley.Mary@epa.gov>; Hartman, Mark <Hartman.Mark@epa.gov>; Henry, Tala <Henry.Tala@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: china

Karissa,

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

if this should be a priority? The attached letter shows who has been invited.

Jeff- if OPPT has specific thoughts please chime in as well.

Thanks,
Nancy

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
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From: Thomas, Karluss
[mailto:Karluss.Thomas@americanchemistry.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:54 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: china

Nancy,

I would like to plan for 2 hours or so. I think they would be interested primarily in EPA's approach for assessment of chemical risk. The focus would be primarily on existing chemicals, but I think there would be interest in a brief overview of how new chemicals are addressed. We have been actively encouraging the Chinese to utilize a risk-based approach that considers exposure so to the extent that could be integrated into your discussions, it would be very helpful. I also think there would be interest in TSCA's approach to prioritization as a practical way to determine which compounds should be assessed first.

There is not a need for any silicones specific discussion. The delegation will be here to discuss the status of a collaboration where GSC, SCC (as a proxy for MEP), and CAFSI (a Chinese trade association that has silicone producers among its members) are undertaking a collective evaluation of the environmental risks associated with D4, but similar to their discussions with Environment Canada, the EPA discussions are intended to provide an overview of the US approach for chemicals evaluation and management. Thanks again for your help.

Karluss

From: Beck, Nancy [<mailto:Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>]
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2018 9:55 AM
To: Thomas, Karluss <Karluss.Thomas@americanchemistry.com>
Subject: RE: china

Karluss,
Thanks for this. From your note, it looks like you are seeking a general talk from EPA to be provided to the Chinese delegation on our approach to risk evaluation for existing chemicals. Is that correct? No specific dialogue on silicones, new chemicals, or other topics? Would 30 minutes suffice?

I just want to be clear on what the ask is.
Thanks,
Nancy

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From: Thomas, Karluss
[<mailto:Karluss.Thomas@americanchemistry.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 12:43 PM
To: Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: china

Hi Nancy,

I hope you are enjoying your trip to the west coast. I trust that having spent time with the 'beautiful people' in sunny southern California will not have ruined your appreciation of Washington.

Attached is the letter that we sent to the Chinese delegation to invite them to the meeting in Washington. We were hopeful that the delegation could meet with you and others at EPA to allow them an opportunity to hear about EPA's risk-based approach to chemicals management. October 30th is the date that we were hoping the delegation could meet with EPA.

A similar meeting has been scheduled in Ottawa for the delegation to meet with folks at Environment Canada. Apologies for the short notice for this request. Thanks again for your help.

Karluss

From: Beck, Nancy [<mailto:Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 7:31 PM
To: Thomas, Karluss <Karluss.Thomas@americanchemistry.com>
Subject: china

Hi Karluss,
I hope you are well. I must have copied down your number incorrectly as I can't seem to successfully return your call. I'm in Los Angeles through Friday but happy to chat next week. If you have anything you can send in writing about the meeting that would be helpful as I will need to run it through our international affairs office to get their input.

Regards,
Nancy

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